

MEMORANDUM

TO : BM/SGN

DATE: 05 December 1969

FROM : SZ/DAD

REF. No. SZDAD/69/121

SUBJECT: DANANG Station Monthly Report for November 1969

GENERAL

The apparent lull in hostile activity continued throughout the month of November. Nearly three months have now elapsed since the last significant incident involving casualties and destruction in the Danang Area.

No further changes have been effected in air base and city curfew hours. However, on 22 November, nine TCN personnel were denied entrance to the base due to expired air base passes. Special arrangements were made which would allow these personnel to enter the base and applications for temporary passes were submitted to the VNAF security authorities. These efforts can only be considered as expedients since applications for permanent 1970 base passes will be processed in December with valid extensions of stay required as supporting documents for all TCN personnel. Very few of these personnel have been granted an extension of stay due to difficulties being encountered in obtaining prerequisite work permits.

No problems were encountered with the five Southern Air Transport flights which transited Danang; routine turnaround maintenance support for these aircraft have ceased with the transfer of the station maintenance supervisor to Saigon.

The critical airconditioner situation reported previously was somewhat alleviated with the advent significantly lowered temperatures experienced during the last half of the month. As a result, airconditioning has not been a serious requirement.

The local director of Customs has verbally indicated that there should be little problem in obtaining authorization to load and offload cargo on company international flights transiting Danang. Formal written authorization has been requested but no reply has been received to date.

CUSTOMER RELATIONS

The AID/VN-70 Air Operations Officer has expressed some dissatisfaction with the amount of time being required to obtain company approval for the passenger terminal renovation project. It is understood that the proforma AR has now been forwarded to Washington for final approval.

Considering the number of flight delays and cancellations due to weather, overall relations with both customers on an operational level have remained excellent.

LEGAL

A local national was seriously injured when he entered the tail rotor arc of 204B N8535F at Dai-Loc on 15 November. He was evacuated to the Danang/USAID hospital where he was treated for a severe left arm fracture and moderate facial abrasions. The attending physician advised that skin grafts should be made on the arm, but the facilities for same are only available in a private clinic. SIC has been queried as to whether or not any company liability should be assumed for the cost of this medical treatment.

FACILITIES

The footing for the station eighty foot, free standing, antenna mast was poured during the month. Erection of the mast should take place on or about 10 December when the concrete will have adequately cured.

The USAF furnished generator was unusually reliable during the month. Power failures were infrequent and of short duration. Commercial power consumption was therefore substantially reduced.

The city power company, S.I.P.E.A., has announced an increase in electricity rates. The price per kilowatt hour is now 14 piastres, an increase of 1.63 piastres.

Routine maintenance of the station facilities has been reduced pending clarification of the means for obtaining customer materials support. All buildings at Danang are considered Government Furnished Property.

FISCAL

██████████ payroll for the month totaled: ██████████

Petty cash expenditures for the month totaled: 24,829\$VM

OPERATIONS

Total revenue flight time declined substantially during November as compared to October. The decrease amounted to 155+02 hours. Although poor weather was the primary causal factor, the revenue loss figures somewhat conceal this fact since many flights were not even scheduled by the customers due to adverse weather conditions.

The following is a breakdown of flight time generated by this station during November:

VN/70 AID	- - - - -	692+03
VN/70 EMB	- - - - -	226+37
0005	- - - - -	N11
0069	- - - - -	N11
Non-Revenue	- - - - -	10+19
Total	- - - - -	<u>928+59</u>

Revenue losses for the month were as follows:

Weather	- - - - -	15+40
Maintenance	- - - - -	2+00
Customer Cancellations	- - -	30+30
Total	- - - - -	<u>48+10</u>

Flight dispatch activity was somewhat hampered by a lack of timely weather reports. With the significant deterioration in overall I Corps weather the need for extensive and up to date weather information is becoming more and more critical. Although weather teletype and autowriter equipment has been installed in operations for over a year it has not been connected to the base circuits due to alleged radio interference problems associated with the ground radio transmitters.

Since these transmitters have been relocated and the USAF had recently installed a new 25 pair underground telephone cable in the Operations/Administration building, coordination with the local communications squadron was effected whereby this equipment will be reconnected in the near future. In fact, it appears as though Air America Danang is programmed to receive, from the Air Force, an upgraded weather teletype capable of receiving 100 words per minute in January.

Hostel occupancy factors were 85.65% and 33.50% for the Old and New hostels respectively.

COMMUNICATIONS

Periodic failures of the VHF/UHF ground radios were experienced during the month, but no extensive problems were encountered in their repair.

Incoming and outgoing messages totaled 1803 and 1388 respectively.

TRAFFIC

The Danang Traffic Manager, Mr. Ogsbury, resigned effective 25 November. Since this position was funded under the Ground Services complement, the AID customer has decided that a PS-D replacement is not necessary to supervise and manage the activities of the USAID warehouse operation.

Pending future developments in this area, TM/GS-SGN has been assigned to the station on a temporary basis. He is being primarily utilized in Flight Operations as a tentative replacement for SOR/DAD who is on extended home leave.

Passenger and cargo statistics for the month are as follows:

	<u>Passengers In</u>	<u>Passengers Out</u>	<u>Cargo In</u>	<u>Cargo Out</u>
VN-70/AID	2,574	2,696	316,868	346,454
VN-70/Embassy	476	525	1,200	2,982
0069	3	8	-	-
0005	5	1	-	-
AAH	105	119	8,482	34,564.9
Total	3,163	3,349	326,550	384,000.9

SECURITY

A meeting was held by the VMAP Security Office to outline the processing requirements for 1970 Air Base passes. Although it was admitted that air base pass processing procedures had been standardized throughout South Vietnam, a given pass will only be valid for the installation where issued. No problems are anticipated in obtaining new passes for local personnel, but as previously mentioned, serious difficulties may result if extension of stays are not received for TCN employees.

PERSONNEL

An employee representatives election is scheduled for 8 December. APM-SGN made a station visit to set up the election procedures and to coordinate with the local labor ministry officials. From all appearances, there is little employee interest in this matter and a scarcity of volunteer candidates.

This office has yet to be approached by any employee regarding the increased cost of living which has resulted from the recent government implementation of austerity taxes. The U.S. Consulate advised that several basic food prices have increased significantly in the Danang Area, but no formal manifestations of discontent have so far occurred.

The personnel breakdown at Danang station at the close of business, 30 November, was as follows:

Permanent	3	20	14	83
Pre-Process	0	0	0	0
Temporary	1	0	0	0
Daily-Hire	0	0	0	0
TOTAL (121)	4	20	14	83

TECHNICAL SERVICES

RMD handled a total of 616 arriving and 617 departing flights during the month, a slight decrease as compared to October. Flight delays attributable to maintenance also decreased, for a total of 3. Heavy services for the month totaled 6, including one PC-6 number 1 and two 204B number two services. Only one outstation recovery was necessary; two engine changes, and one propeller change were required. For the second consecutive month, five aircraft were placed on AGP status.

RGMD expended a total of 842 manhours of which 465 were utilized in general maintenance at the Old and New hostels.

No significant problems in the area of NSA procurement were reported during the month, but long delays are continuing to be encountered in the delivery of construction materials and POL products.

Original Signed by
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cc: file